

And let's remember, Mr. President, many of these hospitals are home to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and home health agencies (HHAs). These are the same SNFs and HHAs that have already been harmed by new prospective payment systems of their own.

This is a very simple bill. It would allow small, rural hospitals to opt out of the outpatient PPS. Without this bill, hospitals all across rural America will face devastating shortfalls in the coming year—and the quality of our country's health care will suffer. With this bill, the small hospitals that serve rural Americans throughout the nation can continue to improve the quality of their services.

Passing this bill is the right thing to do, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1601

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Rural Provider Act of 1999".

#### SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF SMALL RURAL PROVIDERS FROM PPS FOR HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(t)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(t)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking "For purposes of this" and inserting "Subject to subparagraph (C), for purposes of this"; and  
(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(C) EXCLUSION FOR SERVICES FURNISHED BY SMALL RURAL PROVIDERS.—The term 'covered OPD services' does not include services furnished by a—

"(i) medicare-dependent, small rural hospital, as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(G)(iv);

"(ii) a critical access hospital, as defined in section 1861(mm)(1);

"(iii) sole community hospital, as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii); or

"(iv) a hospital (determined as of the date of enactment of the Small Rural Provider Act of 1999) that—

"(I) has less than 50 beds; and

"(II) performed less than 5,000 outpatient procedures during the 12-month period ending on such date;

if such hospital, within the 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of the Small Rural Provider Act of 1999, requests the Secretary to exclude services furnished by such hospital from the prospective payment system established under this subsection."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 386

At the request of Mr. GORTON, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Con-

necticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 386, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for tax-exempt bond financing of certain electric facilities.

S. 391

At the request of Mr. KERREY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 391, a bill to provide for payments to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs.

S. 482

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the increase in the tax on the social security benefits.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more accurately codify the depreciable life of printed wiring board and printed wiring assembly equipment.

S. 693

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 693, a bill to assist in the enhancement of the security of Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 708

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 708, a bill to improve the administrative efficiency and effectiveness of the Nation's abuse and neglect courts and the quality and availability of training for judges, attorneys, and volunteers working in such courts, and for other purposes consistent with the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997.

S. 897

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 897, a bill to provide matching grants for the construction, renovation and repair of school facilities in areas affected by Federal activities, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to promote access to health care services in rural areas.

S. 1053

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1053, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to incorporate certain provisions of the transportation conformity regulations, as in effect on March 1, 1999.

S. 1091

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a pediatric research initiative.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. BURNS, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to provide a patent term restoration review procedure for certain drug products.

S. 1175

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1175, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require that fuel economy labels for new automobiles include air pollution information that consumers can use to help communities meet Federal air quality standards.

S. 1242

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1242, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make permanent the visa waiver program for certain visitors to the United States.

S. 1272

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1272, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to promote pain management and palliative care without permitting assisted suicide and euthanasia, and for other purposes.

S. 1277

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1277, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a new prospective payment system for Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a national folic acid education program to prevent birth defects, and for other purposes.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore access to home health services covered under the medicare program, and to protect the medicare program from financial loss while preserving the due process rights of home health agencies.

S. 1473

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the names of the Senator from Indiana

(Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1473, a bill to amend section 2007 of the Social Security Act to provide grant funding for additional Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and Strategic Planning Communities, and for other purposes.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1547, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to preserve low-power television stations that provide community broadcasting, and for other purposes.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 92

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 92, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that funding for prostate cancer research should be increased substantially.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 158

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 158, a resolution designating October 21, 1999, as a "Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence."

## SENATE RESOLUTION 178

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 178, a resolution designating the week beginning September 19, 1999, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week."

## SENATE RESOLUTION 179

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 179, a resolution designating October 15, 1999, as "National Mammography Day."

## SENATE RESOLUTION 180

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 180, a resolution reauthorizing the John Heinz Senate Fellowship Program.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 183

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) was added as a cosponsor

of Senate Resolution 183, a resolution designating the week beginning on September 19, 1999, and ending on September 25, 1999, as National Home Education Week.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

## LAUTENBERG AMENDMENT NO. 1678

Mr. LAUTENBERG proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 2084) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert:  
SEC. . It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary should expeditiously amend Title 14, Chapter II, Part 250, Code of Federal Regulations, so as to double the applicable penalties for involuntary denied boardings and allow those passengers that are involuntarily denied boarding the option of obtaining a prompt cash refund for the full value of their airline ticket.

DASCHLE (AND OTHERS)  
AMENDMENT NO. 1679

Ms. LANDRIEU (for Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. WYDEN)) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 2084, supra; as follows:

On page 65, line 22, before the period at the end of the line, insert the following: "Provided it is the sense of the Senate, That the funds made available under this heading shall be used for the submission to the appropriate committees of Congress by the Inspector General, not later than July 15, 2000, of a report on the extent to which air carriers and foreign carriers deny travel to airline consumers with non-refundable tickets from one carrier to another, including recommendations to develop a passenger-friendly and cost-effective solution to ticket transfers among airlines when seats are available."

SHELBY (AND LAUTENBERG)  
AMENDMENT NO. 1680

Mr. SHELBY (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 2084, supra; as follows:

On page 7, line 22, before the period, insert the following: "Provided further, That the Secretary of Transportation shall use any surplus funds that are made available to the Secretary, to the maximum extent practicable, to provide for the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard."

On page 18, lines 4 and 5, strike "notwithstanding Public Law 105-178 or any other provision of law."

On page 18, line 24, insert after "Code:" insert the following: "Provided further, That \$6,000,000 of the funds made available under 104(a) of title 23, United States Code, shall be made available to carry out section 5113 of Public Law 105-178:"

On page 19, lines 12 and 13, strike "notwithstanding any other provision of law,"

On page 20, lines 7 and 8, strike "notwithstanding any other provision of law,"

On page 20, line 12, strike all after "That" through "of law," on line 21.

On page 20, line 22, strike "not less than" and insert the following: "\$5,000,000 shall be made available to carry out the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System program, and".

On page 22, line 15, strike "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for" and insert the following: "For".

On page 24, lines 4 through 8, strike: "Provided further, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be obligated or expended to implement section 656(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 405 note)".

On page 40, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following: "Gees Bend Ferry facilities, Wilcox County, Alabama".

On page 40, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following: "Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, Southern Crescent Transit bus service between Clayton County and MARTA rail stations, Georgia".

On page 42, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following: "Jasper buses, Alabama".

On page 43, line 16, insert after "Lane County, Bus Rapid Transit" the following: "buses and facilities".

On page 44, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following: "Los Angeles/City of El Segundo Douglas Street Green Line connection".

On page 47, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following: "Newark intermodal center, New Jersey".

On page 48, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following: "Parkersburg intermodal transportation facility, West Virginia".

On page 56, strike line 18, and insert the following: "Dane County/Madison East-West Corridor".

On page 57, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following: "Northern Indiana South Shore commuter rail project".

On page 59, line 10, strike "and the".

On page 59, line 11, after "projects" insert the following: "and the Washington Metro Blue Line extension—Addison Road".

On page 61, strike lines 1 and 2, 11 and 12.

On page 62, strike lines 1 and 2.

On page 62, line 4, strike "and the" and insert: "Wilmington, DE downtown transit connector; and the".

On page 80, line 24, strike "and" and inserts".

On page 81, strike lines 1 through 8.

On page 90, strike lines 4 through 22, and insert the following:

"SEC. . (a) None of the funds in this act shall be available to execute a project agreement for any highway project in a state that sells drivers' license personal information as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(3) (excluding individual photograph), or motor vehicle record, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(1), unless that state has established and implemented an opt-in process for the use of personal information or motor vehicle record in surveys, marketing (excluding insurance rate setting), or solicitations.

"(b) None of the funds in this act shall be available to execute a project agreement for any highway project in a state that sells individual's drivers' license photographs, unless that state has established and implemented an opt-in process for such photographs."

On page 91, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

"SEC. . Of funds made available in this Act, the Secretary shall make available not